RECEIVED

OCT 1 4 2003

TC 1700

PTO/SB/08a (05-03)

| IRADEUnder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to result to result to the Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | App U.S. Patent and Trade respond to a collection of informa | PTO/SB/08a (05-0) PTO/SB/08a (|
|--|--|--|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | Cor | mplete if Known |
| | Application Number | 08/870,591 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | Filing Date | 06/06/1997 |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | First Named Inventor | HEINZ ESCH |
| | Art Unit | 1754 |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary) | Examiner Name | Hendrickson, S.L. |
| Sheet 1 of 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 021123-0238397 |

| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | U. S. PATENT Publication Date | | |
|--------------|------|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Initials* | No.1 | Number-Kind Code ² ((Known) | MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| 540 | _1_ | US- 5,256,196 | October 26, 1993 | Chjonowski et al. | |
| | 2 | us- 5,484,581 | January 16, 1996 | Esch et al. | |
| | 3 | US- 5,705,137 | January 6, 1998 | Goerl et al. | |
| + | 4 | US- 5,846,506 | December 8, 1998 | Esch et al. | |
| + | _5 | US- 5,859,117 | January 12, 1999 | Goerl et al. | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| + | 6 | US- 5,871,867 | February 16, 1999 | | |
| + | 7. | Us. 5,925,708 | July 20, 1999 | Esch et al. | |
| | -8 | 6,180,076 | January 30, 2001 | Uhrlandt et al. | |
| V | 9 | US- 6,214,383 | 1 | Esch et al. | |
| | | US- | | | * |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | Us- | * | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| + | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | - | US- | | | |
| | | | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (# known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Т6 |
| | | | | | and the regular Appeal | T |
| | | | | | | \dagger |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | <u> </u> |

| Examiner | | |
|------------|---|----------------|
| Signature | heilia Via | Date |
| *EXAMINER: | Initial if reference considered whether | Considered 060 |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. The Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of Japanese patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. The Police that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

| Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to re | | PTC/SB/IBB (08-03) woved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0631-0031 imerk Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE stion unless it cuntains a valid OMB control number | |
|--|----------------------|--|--|
| Substitute for form 1449APTO | Complete if Known | | |
| | Application Number | 08/870,591 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | Filing Date | 06/06/1997 | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | First Named Inventor | ESCH | |

Art Unit 1754 Examiner Name (Usa ax many shoots as necessary) Hendrickson, S.L Sheet Attorney Docket Number 021123-0238397 of U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examinor Cita Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Document Number Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Pages, Columns, Unes, Where Relovant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear midale' No. Number-Kind Code^{2 (V known)}

| SID | 1 | US- 6.169,135 | January 2001 | Chevallier at al. | |
|-----|--|---------------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| SU | _2_ | US- 6,335,396 | January 2002 | Chevallier et al. | |
| | | US | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | USA | | | |
| * | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | us- | | | |
| | | us- | | | |
| | - | US- | | | |
| | | U8- | | | |
| | | U\$- | | | |
| | | UŜ- | | | |
| | | US- | <u> </u> | | |
| | | U8- | | | |
| | \vdash | US- | | | |
| | 1 | US- | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|----------|
| Examinor initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patratt Document Country Coop "Number "Yord Code" (I known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patenties or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columna, Linea, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | 74 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | |
| | | · | | | | |
| | | | | | | \vdash |

| _ | | | | |
|-----------|--|------------|--------------|---|
| Evernines | 10 | | | _ |
| Examinor | 11 9 , 1 | Date | 1-11 | |
| Signature | 1.604011 | Considered | 1 1/1/1/1/20 | |
| | TO VOLUME CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR | Campingo | I. MILLON | |
| *FXAMINER | Initial II reference considered whether or not allertee in in the second with MOST or | | | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not clastion is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through distillon if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). I See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gog or MPEP 801.04. Fairly of the Office that issued the document, by the byte-foliate code (WPFO Standard 87.3). * Por Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document to the appropriate symboth as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. * Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is allacked.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.96. The information is required to obtain or retain a banefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the inclinational case. Any comments on the emount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burdon, should be sent to the Chief information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commence, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissionar for Patenta, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9189 and select option 2.